(b) if so, what are their demands; ana

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter? ,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THR MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The major demands made by the Coffee growers relate revision of Minimum Release Price, waiver of export duty, more representation to growers in the Board, a grower member should be ihe Chairman of the Coffee Board payment of firet instalment equal to Minimum Release Price to growers.

Decision regarding revision of Minimum Release Price is expected to be taken soon. While imposing export duty it is ensured that the growers' remunerative return and exporters' profit margin is *kept* intact and only half of the windfal gain beyond a base price so arrived is charged as the export duty. ,

The composition of the Board was reviewed as recently as in August, 1984 to provide more balanced representation. Chairman, Coffee Board has to be a Governrnent official with administrative experience who could take an overall view on an issue keeping in mind the various interests involved in coffee industry. Besides he acts as the Chief Executive.

The first instalment of payment to growers being equal to the Minimum Releass Price may not be in the interest of coffee growers becaasc the Board will have ,to arrange for payment through overdrafts al a higher rate of interest which will red nce the net payments to tbe growers considerably.

1306, *[Transferred to thr li'h August.* 19K1.

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Conversion of loan given to Karnatakt I from short term *to* medium term loam

1307. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Karnataka Govera trtent have urged the Central Govern ment to convert the short-term loam which were made available to the State Government under drought relief assist** ee, into medium-term loans; ,

(b) if so. what is the reaction of th* Central Government thereto; and

(c) by when a final decision is likaly to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) No request has been received from the Government of Karnataka for conversion of short term loans into medium term loam for draught relief.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Request for Ban on import of raw aUk by Exporters

1308 SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA; Will the Minister of TEXTILE* be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are awara that the silk industry in the South parti cularly in Karnataka State has been severa lly affected due to imports of raw «ilk exporters under the replenishment schema and advance licencing scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government ot Karnataka has urged the Central Goverm ment to put a ban on import of silk by exporters under rep'enishment of expnr! production and advance licencing *chea»a', and